



Adapted for
Montgomery County Fire & Rescue
Driver Training Program



MARYLAND FIRE AND RESCUE INSTITUTE • UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

Emergency Vehicle Operator

**Lesson 2-3:
Working Safely On and
Around Apparatus**



Student Performance Objective

- After completing this lesson, the student shall be able to identify safety considerations when working on and around emergency vehicles. In addition, students will be able to demonstrate skills in safely operating and driving an apparatus.



Overview

- Working Safely On and Around Apparatus

Working Safely On and Around Fire Apparatus

- Compartment Doors
 - Safety of the work environment can be improved by encouraging good practices with compartment doors.

Compartment doors must stay closed when not in use

- Open doors can cause injuries to people who accidentally walk into them
- Open horizontal doors can be mistaken for walking surface and be damaged

Working Safely On and Around Fire Apparatus

- NEVER step on open compartment doors. They do not support heavy weight. Falls can cause serious injury or death.



Working Safely On and Around Fire Apparatus

- It may sometimes be necessary to climb or walk on parts of an apparatus that do not have railings.

Have second person present

Walk only on slip resistant surface

Maintain three points of contact to get off

Wear PPE according to local policy

Working Safely On and Around Fire Apparatus

- New apparatus must include positive restraints for all hoses carried on the apparatus.

All hoses
secured to
apparatus



Apparatus in
motion

Working Safely On and Around Fire Apparatus

- **WARNING:** Secure hose and other equipment before placing vehicle in motion. Loose hose may drag behind vehicle and injure or kill.



Working Safely On and Around Fire Apparatus

- Aerial apparatus may carry the hose under the aerial ladder and have a chute that guides it out the back.

Ensure hose connections do not get caught in chute

Lay hose according to chute design

Check for obstructed couplings to avoid damage

Maintain speeds of 5 mph (10 km/h) or less

Working Safely On and Around Fire Apparatus

- Many departments store equipment in the cab or other crew areas.

SCBA
packs

Helmets

Flashlights

Axes

Maps

Medical
supplies

Secure in brackets or storage cabinet

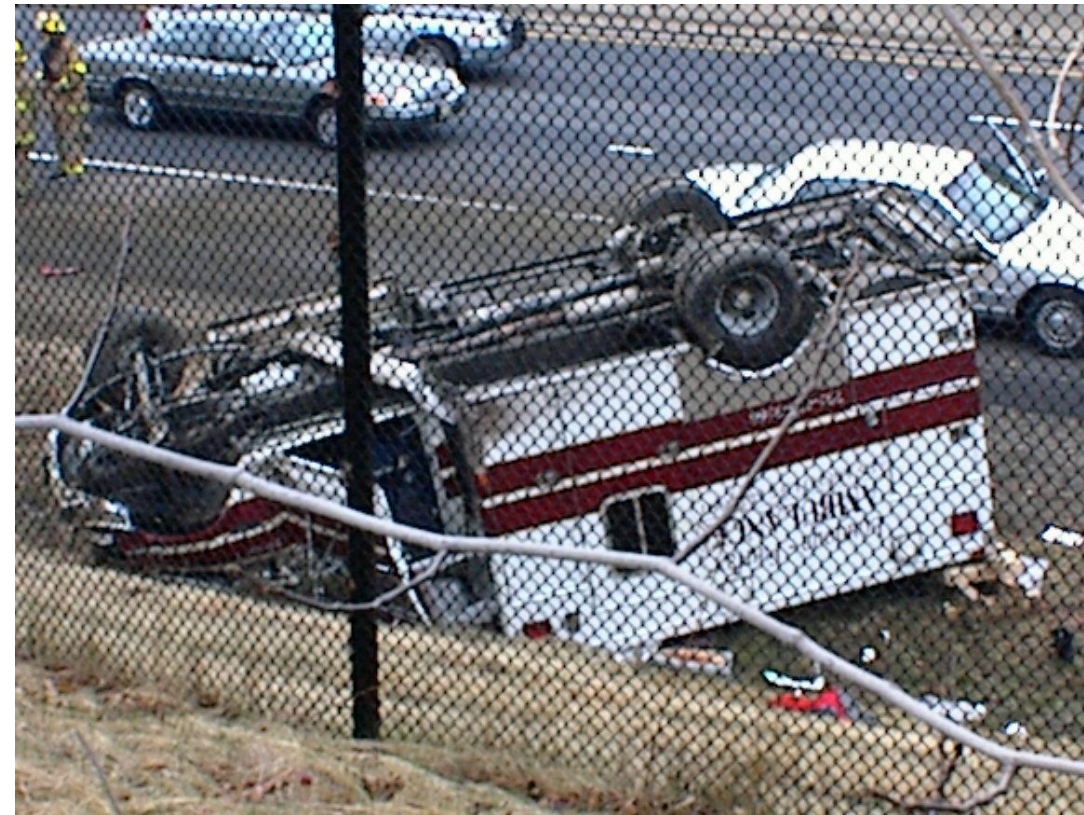
Minimize equipment amount stored in crew areas

EQUIPMENT SECURITY

PATIENT COMPARTMENT



- Lifepak
- Oxygen cylinders
- Aid bags
- Cot



Working Safely On and Around Fire Apparatus

- **WARNING:** Secure equipment in the crew areas before placing the vehicle in motion. Unsecured equipment may cause serious injury or death in a crash.



Working Safely On and Around Fire Apparatus

- Apparatus may have hydraulic components and tools that are potentially hazardous.

Know the types of hydraulic fluids

- Leaks may cause burns or injuries
 - Some may be toxic to human tissue
 - All are covered in the SDS/MSDS

Know the appropriate PPE to wear

Know your hydraulic extrication tools

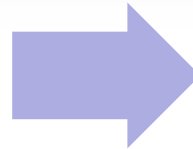
Working Safely On and Around Fire Apparatus

- Driver/operators must take care when removing inlet and discharge caps.

Check for trapped pressure before removing caps

Open bleeder valve
or drain valve

- Release trapped pressure



Remove cap

- Remove cap slowly and carefully
- No standing in front of cap

Student Performance Objective

- After completing this lesson, the student shall be able to identify safety considerations when working on and around emergency vehicles. In addition, students will be able to demonstrate skills in safely operating and driving an apparatus.



Review

- Working Safely on and Around Apparatus